

MEDICAL CONTROL GUIDELINE: ONLINE MEDICAL CONTROL

PRINCIPLES:

1. Non-Standing Field Treatment Protocol (SFTP) provider agency paramedics shall establish base hospital contact on all patients who meet Section I of Reference No. 808, Base Hospital Contact and Transport Criteria.
2. Non-SFTP provider agency paramedics shall establish base hospital contact after providing any treatments under Ref. No. 806.1, Procedures Prior to Base Contact. Once on-line medical control has been established, all medical orders shall be obtained from the base hospital via direct voice communication.
3. Communication with the base hospital shall be maintained until the base hospital ends the call.
4. The paramedic who provides direct patient care during transport shall have a means to establish communication with the base hospital at all times.

GUIDELINES:

1. Utilize radios, the VMED28 radio frequency, telephones for required voice communications between paramedics and base hospitals.
2. Repeat all base hospital orders, especially complete medication orders (name of drug, dose and route) to confirm reception and decrease errors.
3. Maintain or re-establish online communications as directed by the base hospital for critical or hemodynamically unstable patients.
4. If a patient refuses treatment/transport and meets base hospital contact criteria, paramedics should establish base hospital contact prior to having the patient sign out against medical advice.
5. Base hospital contact with a full patient report is required for patients initially treated with SFTP and care is subsequently transferred to a non-SFTP provider agency and/or paramedic.